THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As reported by Delhi Administration the allotment was to be made through public draw of lots conducted by independent judges which was duly publicised in the daily newspapers.

(c) As reported by Delhi Administration, a letter was received by them from leader of opposition in the Metropolitan Council requesting that the policy of allotment be made public before screening the applications and that there had been certain allegations that some touts were demanding huge sums of money for allotting flatted factories. Since the procedure for allotment was by public draw of lots conducted by independent judges and since no specific instance of demand of money was brought to notice, it was not consi dered necessary to hold an enquiry into the allegations.

**Decline in the industrial growth**

213. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of industrial growth in the country has been declining during the current year;

(b) if so, how far the actual rate of industrial growth is lower than that projected in the budget; and

(c) what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) According to CSO Index of Industrial Production, the rate of Industrial growth during April-August, 1985 was 6.3 per cent as against 8.0 per cent during the corresponding period last year and a similar average annual rate of growth envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985--90).

The rate of industrial growth during the current financial year would have been higher but for lower rate of growth in electricity & mining sectors and certain factors such as infrastructural constraints, under utilisation of capacities, inadequate technological upgradation, etc.

**Gas Leakage in Calico Industries, Bombay**

214. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR *BIRLA* :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that gas leakage accident took place at Calico Industries Chembur, Bombay on August 30, 1985, in which at least one person was killed and about 150 others including a Member of Parliament were injured and hospitalised due to serious air pollution;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what was the cause of the accident and what are the details of medical treatment and other relief provided to the victims;

(c) whether any inquiry into the lapse in respect of the safety measures in the said factory was conducted to prevent such accident in future; and

(d) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) According to the information received from the Government of Maharashtra, as a result of leakage of chlorine gas out of the storage tank of M/s. ILAC Limited at Chembur, one person died and 139 persons were admitted

to various hospitals, from where they were discharged after necessary treatment. The accident occurred due to failure of a gasket of the flange located on the top of the affected chlorine storage tank. Immediately after the accident the State Government had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of the State Labour Secretary and consisting of representatives from the Bhaba Atomic Research Centre, the Chief Inspectorate of Factories, the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and the Bombay Municipal Corporation to take action for the safe disposal of the chlorine stored in the tanks. All the work relating to the disposal of chlorine has been carried out under the direction and guidance of the above Committee constituted by the State Government. Further details are being ascertained.

12 NOON

## REFERENCE TO THE HANGING OF BENJAMIN MOLOISE BY PRETORIA REGIME

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, now I wish to refer to two important matters. These concern not only the House but the entire country.

Hon. Members will recall that this House had on the 20th August, 1985 made an appeal to the South African Government to desist from the execution of Benjamin Moloise, South African poet and freedom fighter. This was done with the fervent hope that the racist regime of South Africa will spare the precious life of Benjamin Moloise. But ignoring world public opinion for clemency, the Pretoria Regime hanged Benjamin Moloise exactly one month back this day. Benjamin Moloise has become another martyr, who sacrificed his life in the struggle for social justice and human rights. We condemn this cruel act of the South African Government and assure the oppressed people of South Africa of sympathy and support of this nation in their struggle for freedom.

We fervently hope that their struggle for freedom will triumph.

## REFERENCE TO THE MEETING OF U.S. PRESIDENT, RONALD REAGAN AND SOVIET LEADER, MIKHAIL GORBACHOV, IN GENEVA

MR. CHAIRMAN: The other matter which I wish to refer to is about the summit meeting.

As the House is aware, U. S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachov are scheduled to meet tomorrow in Geneva, to initiate talks on the elimination of strategic nuclear weapons. The House sends them our sincere good wishes and hopes that their talks would be successful and would pave the way for ushering in a world order free from fear of nuclear holocaust, leading to real security and respect for the rights of all people so that they and their future generations may live in peace in a tension free world.

SHRI K. MOHANAN (Kerala): Sir, we all join you.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM (Tamil Nadu): We are very happy to endorse, Sir.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): Sir, about the Prime Minister's visit. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have allowed Mr. Advani to raise it.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Sir, there should be a resolution in the House about the execution of Benjamin Moloise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A statement from the Chair amounts to a unanimous resolution of the House. Therefore, this has been made by the Chair, and it will be deemed to be a unanimous resolution of the House.